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(21) International Application Number: PCT/GB00/00441 (22) International Filing Date: 11 February 2000 (11.02.00) (30) Priority Data: 99301883.7 12 March 1999 (12.03.99) EP (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): ENTROPIC LIMITED [GB/GB]; Compass House, 80-82 Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8DZ (GB). (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): MATHESON, Caroline [GB/GB]; Entropic Limited, Compass House, 80-82 Newmarket Road, Cambridge CB5 8DZ (GB). (74) Agent: GILL JENNINGS & EVERY; Broadgate House, 7 Eldon Street, London EC2M 7LH (GB).		(81) Designated States: AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: MAN-MACHINE DIALOGUE SYSTEM AND METHOD		
<pre> graph TD OS[Object System] <--> DC[Dialogue Control] subgraph SystemBoundary [] direction TB ID[Input Device] --> DC DC --> OD[Output Device] DS[Dialogue Specification] end User[User] --> ID OD --> User </pre>		
(57) Abstract <p>A man-machine dialogue system employing an interactive computer system comprising an input device for receiving input from the user. An output device generating output to the user. There is provided an object system which is an information source or store, or a command and control device. The system has a dialogue manager, which orchestrates the dialogue between the object system and user dependent upon a dialogue specification. The specification employs a set of augmented transition networks (ATNs), through which are propagated one or more tokens, the token comprising a set of fields which together define the current state of belief of the dialogue controller, dependent upon the preceding user-system interchanges and information obtained from the object system.</p>		

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